

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/798,204

Examiner

Thao T. Tran

Applicant(s)

ILIESCU ET AL.

Art Unit

1711

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to The Amendments filed on 11/9/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-19.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ms. Lynn Cassan on December 7, 2005.

The application has been amended as follows: In claim 10:

A/ line 18, "affixes" should be changed to --affix--;

B/ line 19, insert --,-- between "laminate sheet" and "and the outer edges".

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-19 are allowed.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: no prior art has been found to teach, discloses, or fairly suggest a method for making a hard laminate sheet having a flexible band at one side thereof for use in a security booklet, the method comprising the step of laminating hard core layers to produce core-to-core bonds between adjacent hard core layers and within apertures of a flexible sheet; whereby the core-to-core bonds within the apertures affix the flexible sheet to the laminate sheet, and the outer edges of the upper and lower sections of the laminate sheet are aligned so as to define the outer edges of the laminate sheet; in combination with all of the other limitations in claim 10. The examiner is relying on Applicants' arguments on page 7, 3rd and 4th paragraphs, as the basis for allowance.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

4. Almgren et al. (WO 98/19870), Taru et al. (EP 1380442), Taru et al. (EP 1245407), and Lob et al. (US Pat. 6,135,503) are cited of interest.

Almgren et al teaches a process of making and an information page for use in a passport, the information page comprising three layers of polycarbonate laminated together (see abstract; Figs. 2, 4-5).

Taru EP '442 and Taru EP '407 disclose a process of making and an information page for use in passports, the information page comprising layers of polycarbonate laminated together ('442: see abstract; Fig. 1d; paragraphs 0016-0017, 0024) and ('407: see abstract; Fig. 2).

Lob discloses a process of making and a laminated data sheet for use in passports, the laminate comprising two cover foils and an inlay, wherein the cover foils extend into plastic foils that are flexible for attaching the single passport pages together (see abstract; Fig. 2).

However, none of the above references recognizes the criticality of having the flexible sheet comprising apertures; whereby laminating of the hard core layers produces core-to-core bonds between adjacent hard core layers and within apertures of a flexible sheet, which affix the flexible sheet to the laminate sheet.

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Contact Information

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thao T. Tran whose telephone number is 571-272-1080. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, from 9:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Seidleck can be reached on 571-272-1078. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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December 7, 2005



**THAO T. TRAN
PATENT EXAMINER**